

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- Do Not  
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RF 3/30/04
1. (currently amended) A flexible joint assembly for conducting a fluid, comprising:
    - a joint assembly inlet;
    - a joint assembly outlet; and
    - a fluid flow path between the inlet and the outlet, the fluid flow path including:
      - a first pivot joint;
      - a second pivot joint, wherein each of the first pivot joint and second pivot joint independently comprises a ball and socket joint, wherein each ball and socket joint comprises:
        - a socket;
        - a ball received in the socket;
        - a seal between the ball [[to]] and the socket, and each ball and socket joint further comprises a compressing member axially compressing the seal between the ball and the socket and a retaining ring compressing the seal between the ball and the socket; and
        - a central fluid conductor fluidly coupling the pivot joints wherein the central fluid conductor couples to a first ball of the first pivot joint and a second ball of the second pivot joint, and each retaining ring compresses the seal by threadably connecting to a surface of the socket adjacent to the central fluid connector and the ball,
  - wherein the pivot joints together provide greater than a 60° bend between the inlet and the outlet and each pivot joint independently provides greater than a 35° bend in the fluid flow path.
    - 2-6. (canceled).
    7. (original) The flexible joint assembly of claim 1 wherein the first pivot joint and the second pivot joint together provide a substantially 90° bend between the inlet and the outlet.
    8. (original) The flexible joint assembly of claim 1 wherein the central fluid conductor is unitary.